

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 79

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 84

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 79—Relative to American Stroke Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State May 28, 2004.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 79, Scott. American Stroke Month.

This measure would recognize the Month of May 2004 as American Stroke Month in California.

WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association, is celebrating May 2004 as American Stroke Month in California; and

WHEREAS, The theme for American Stroke Month 2004 is “Time Lost=Brain Lost” to offer advocates for stroke awareness an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the devastating effects of stroke; and

WHEREAS, Strokes are the third leading cause of death in the United States striking about 700,000 Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability in the United States with about 4.8 million stroke survivors today; and

WHEREAS, In 2004 the estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke is about \$53.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, The majority of Americans are not aware of their risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke; and

WHEREAS, Warning signs of stroke include: sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance, or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, Stroke leads to the death of more than 18,000 Californians each year; and

WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the month of May 2004 shall be recognized as

American Stroke Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effects of stroke; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature urges all the citizens of our state to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects that a stroke makes on our population; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

